



Midland Compounding adds small-lot line

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PLASTICS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

MIDLAND, MICH. (July 13, 3 p.m. ET) -- Midland Compounding and Consulting Inc. is boosting its materials development capacity with the purchase of a Werner & Pfleiderer 30-millimeter twin-screw extrusion machine.

"It increases our design flexibility for compounding," said Chris Surbrook, new business development manager for the Midland-based company in a telephone interview.

He said the equipment can be used for small-scale compounding in run sizes as small as 50 pounds.

The used extruder will be installed by the end of July.

Surbrook said that about 20 percent of Midland's business is in material development and it is a growth area for the company. He said the company will add two employees once the machine is installed.

The company already has two other machines for lab use, a Leistritz 19-millimeter twin-screw and a Killion single-screw. Midland reorganized its existing space to accommodate the newer machine.

Overall, Midland has 19 employees working 24 hours, five days a week, in a 50,000-square-foot facility.

Midland does a lot of recycling work, predominately in the furniture and automotive industries.

Surbrook said the company creates a lot of custom materials, and it has experiencing working with mixed materials.

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